

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-11

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EUR-12 MCT-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02
SS-15 ICA-11 SSM-03 IO-13 /094 W
-----110802 180807Z /10
R 160718Z MAY 78
FM AMCONSUL ALEXANDRIA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1732
INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO

C O N F I D E N T I A L ALEXANDRIA 0366

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PDIP, EG, RO
SUBJ: CALL BY ROMANIAN CONSUL GENERAL

1. ROMANIAN CONSUL GENERAL IOAN DOBRICEAN, NEW DEAN OF THE
CONSULAR CORPS IN ALEXANDRIA, CALLED ON ME, PRESUMABLY ON
CONSULAR CORPS BUSINESS, MAY 12.

2. HIS FIRST ITEM OF BUSINESS, WHICH HE SAID WAS ONLY INCIDENTAL
TO HIS CALL, WAS TERRORISM. HE ASKED ME WHAT I COULD TELL HIM
ABOUT OUR PROTECTION PLANS, BUT HE DID NOT PRESS ME FOR DETAILS.
I ANSWERED GENERALLY THAT HE HAD SEEN AS HE CAME IN THAT WE
TRIED TO SCREEN VISITORS TO ENSURE THAT THEY WERE UNARMED AND
ON LEGITIMATE BUSINESS. (THE ROMANIAN CONSUL GENERAL WAS NOT
IMMEDIATELY RECOGNIZED AS HE ENTERED AND WAS THEREFORE GIVEN
THE METAL-DETECTOR TEST BEFORE HE IDENTIFIED HIMSELF TO THE
GUARD INSIDE THE BUILDING.) HE SAID THAT THERE HAD BEEN
INDICATIONS THAT TERRORISTS MIGHT BE AFTER THE ROMANIANS
BUT, ON FURTHER QUESTIONING, HE DENIED THAT THIS WAS ANY MORE
THAN A GENERAL INDICATION, NOT SPECIFICALLY INVOLVING ALEXANDRIA.
HE ADDED THAT HE HAD BROUGHT THIS POSSIBILITY TO THE ATTENTION
OF HIS FOREIGN MINISTRY, BUT THEY HAD DENIED THAT ANY THREAT
EXISTED IN ALEXANDRIA AND HAD DECLINED TO PROVIDE HIM WITH
ANY PROTECTION.

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3. OTHER MATTERS RAISED BY MR. DOBRICEAN INCLUDED A POSSIBLE
MEETING OF THE CONSULAR CORPS WITH TOP LEVEL GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS
AT OCCASIONAL LUNCHEONS, CONSULAR CORPS OUTINGS, ETC. WE
DISCUSSED THESE PRO AND CON-- MR. DOBRICEAN SAID HE WAS TRYING
TO DEVELOP A CONSENSUS WITHIN THE CORPS AS TO HOW ACTIVE
IT WOULD LIKE TO BE.

4. MR. DOBRICEAN THEN PASSED ON TO THE MIDDLE EAST SITUATION AND ASKED WHAT I COULD TELL HIM OF NEW AMERICAN IDEAS FOR A ME PEACE THAT HAD BEEN REPORTED IN THE PRESS FROM SAUDIA ARABIA. I TOLD HIM I WAS SURE THAT GREAT THOUGHT WAS BEING GIVEN IN THE U.S. AS TO WAYS IN WHICH THE CURRENT STALEMATE OF THE ME PEACE PROCESS COULD BE BROKEN, BUT I HAD NO INFORMATION ABOUT NEW MOVES THAT MAY HAVE BEEN DISCUSSED WITH THE SAUDIS. HE THEN TURNED TO THE SITUATION IN RHODESIA AND WE DISCUSSED THE DEVELOPMENTS IN THAT AREA BRIEFLY.

5. COMMENT: WHILE IT IS ALTOGETHER POSSIBLE THAT MR. DOBRICEAN MAY BE CALLING ON ALL CONSULAR CORPS MEMBERS TO DISCUSS CONSULAR CORPS BUSINESS, I HAD THE IMPRESSION THAT HIS TERRORISM QUERY WAS PROBABLY THE MAIN REASON FOR HIS CALL ON ME AT THIS TIME.
MCCLELLAND

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